Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A process for micronization of a pharmaceutically active agent comprising the steps of:
   (a) suspending the pharmaceutically active agent in a gas propellant or in a compressed gas,
   (b) processing this suspension by high pressure homogenization, and
   (c) obtaining dry powder upon depressurization.

2. (Previously Presented) A process for micronization of a pharmaceutically active agent comprising the steps of:
   (a) suspending the pharmaceutically active agent in a gas propellant,
   (b) processing this suspension by high pressure homogenization, and
   (c) obtaining a suspension of the micronized pharmaceutically active agent in the gas propellant.

3. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 1 wherein the pharmaceutically active agent micronized by said process has an average particle size between about 0.1 and about 7.0 micrometers.

4. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 1 wherein the pharmaceutically active agent micronized by said process has an average particle size of from about 0.5 to about 5.0 micrometers.

5. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 1 wherein the suspension formed by the pharmaceutically active agent and the compressed gas or gas propellant comprises one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

6. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 1 wherein the pharmaceutically active agent is poorly soluble in water and/or chemically or thermally unstable.

7. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 1 wherein the pharmaceutically active agent comprises~~is chosen from~~ at least one of pimecrolimus (33-Epichloro-33-desoxy-ascomycin), 5-[(R)-2-(5,6-diethyl-indan-2-ylamino)-1-hydroxy-ethyl]-8-hydroxy-(1H)-quinolin-2-one, 3-methylthiophene-2-carboxylic acid (6S,9R,10S,11S,13S,16R,17R)- 9-chloro-6-fluoro-11-hydroxy-17-methoxycarbonyl-10,13,16-trimethyl-3-oxo- 6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-dodecahydro-3H-cyclopenta-[α]phenanthren-17-yl ester, N-benzoylstaurosporine, oxcarbazepine, carbamazepine, 1-(2,6-Difluoro- benzyl)-1H-[1,2,3]triazole-4-carboxylic acid amide, cox-2 inhibitors, pyrimidylalaminobenzamides, camptothecin derivatives, proteins, peptides, vitamins, steroids, bronchodilators.

8. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 1 wherein the compressed gas comprises~~is chosen from~~ at least one of carbon dioxide, nitrogen, dimethyl ether, ethane, propane and butane.

9. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 1 wherein the compressed gas is an HFA propellant qualified for human use.

10. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 1 wherein the compressed gas is chosen from at least one of HFA134a and HFA227.

11. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 5 wherein the pharmaceutically active excipient comprises~~is chosen from~~ at least one of surfactant, carrier and lubricant.

12. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 11 wherein the surfactant comprises~~is chosen from~~ at least one of acetylated monoglycerides, perfluorocarboxylic acid, polyethylene glycol (PEG) sterol esters, polyethylene oxide sorbitan fatty acid esters, sorbitan esters, sorbitan mono laureate, sorbitan mono oleate, sorbitan tri oleate, sorbitan mono palmitate, propylene glycol and oleic acid.

13. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 1 wherein the suspension of the pharmaceutically active agent in a gas propellant or compressed gas is processed by homogenization using static geometries.

14. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 1 wherein the suspension of the pharmaceutically active agent in a gas propellant or compressed gas is processed by homogenization using a dynamic valve.

15. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 1 wherein the suspension of the pharmaceutically active agent and the compressed gas or gas propellant is formed in a first stirred vessel and stored in a second stirred vessel after the micronization process.

16. (Previously Presented) A micronized pharmaceutically active agent obtained by the process of claim 1.

17. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the micronized pharmaceutically active agent of claim 16 and pharmaceutically acceptable excipients.

18. (Original) A package comprising a composition according to claim 17 and instructions to use.

19. (Currently Amended) A process according to claim 1 wherein said micronized pharmaceutically active agent is <u>filled directly to</u> ~~prepared in situ in~~ an inhalation device.

20-22. (Canceled)

23. (New) A process according to claim 2 wherein said micronized pharmaceutically active agent is filled directly to an inhalation device.